

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A reproducing apparatus which reproduces a moving image file recorded on a recording medium, the said apparatus comprising:

a table size obtaining unit operable to obtain, from a recording medium, size information of a table which holds index information for the moving image file;

a memory for storing index information that is for the reproduction of the moving image file;

a memory size obtaining unit operable to obtain size information of said the memory;

a table size obtaining unit operable to obtain, from the recording medium, size information of a table that holds the index information that is for the reproduction of the moving image file;

a calculating unit operable to calculate a thinning-out ratio of the index information to be stored in the memory, the thinning-out ratio being calculated based on the size information of the memory and the size information of the table so that the size of the table becomes equal to or smaller than the size of said memory; and

a thinning-out unit operable to thin out the index information based on the thinning-out ratio; and

a writing unit operable to thin out the index information read from the recording medium, the index information being thinned out based on the thinning-out ratio calculated by the calculating unit, and operable to write the thinned-out index information into the memory, write the thinned-out index information into said memory.

Claim 2 (Withdrawn) The reproducing apparatus according to Claim 1,

wherein said calculating unit is operable to calculate the thinning-out ratio of the index information so that the index information is thinned out at regular intervals with respect to a total reproduction time of the moving image file.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended) The reproducing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein ~~the said~~ calculating unit ~~calculates~~ ~~is operable to calculate~~ the thinning-out ratio of the index information ~~so such~~ that the index information is thinned out based on a weight assigned to the index information ~~depending on~~ according to a reproduction time of the moving image file.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended) The reproducing apparatus according to Claim 3, further comprising a file characteristic detecting unit operable to detect a characteristic of the moving image file, wherein ~~when the in the case where said~~ file characteristic detecting unit detects that ~~the~~ contents of the moving image file is a movie, ~~said the~~ calculating unit ~~is operable to calculate~~ calculates the thinning-out ratio of the index information ~~so such~~ that a density of the index information becomes lower as the reproduction time of the moving image file passes.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended) The reproducing apparatus according to Claim 3, further comprising a reproduction start point detecting unit operable to detect a reproduction start point of the moving image file,

wherein ~~said the~~ calculating unit ~~is operable to calculate~~ calculates the thinning-out ratio of the index information ~~so such~~ that a density of the index information becomes lower before

the reproduction start point detected by ~~said the~~ reproduction start point detecting unit, and the density of the index information becomes higher after the reproduction start point detected by ~~said the~~ reproduction start point detecting unit.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended) The reproducing apparatus according to Claim 3, further comprising a reproduction mode detecting unit operable to detect a reproduction mode of the moving image file,

wherein, ~~when the in the case where said~~ reproduction mode detecting unit detects an introduction reproduction mode for searching for ~~the a~~ beginning of the moving image file, ~~said the~~ calculating unit ~~calculates is operable to calculate~~ the thinning-out ratio of the index information ~~so such~~ that a density of the index information becomes higher in an introduction reproduction section, and the density of the index information becomes lower in a section other than the introduction reproduction section.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended) The reproducing apparatus according to Claim 3, further comprising an operational preference detecting unit operable to detect an operational preference of a user,

wherein, ~~when the in the case where said~~ operational preference detecting unit detects that the user uses a specific reproduction function ~~with at~~ a predetermined frequency or higher, ~~said the~~ calculating unit ~~calculates is operable to calculate~~ the thinning-out ratio of the index information ~~so such~~ that a density of the index information becomes higher in a reproduction section ~~that which~~ is required when the specific reproduction function is used, and the density of

the index information becomes lower in a reproduction section ~~that~~-which is not required when the specific reproduction function is used.

Claim 8 (Withdrawn) The reproducing apparatus according to Claim 3, further comprising:

 a file characteristic detecting unit operable to detect a characteristic of the moving image file;

 a reproduction start point detecting unit operable to detect a reproduction start point of the moving image file;

 a reproduction mode detecting unit operable to detect a reproduction mode of the moving image file;

 an operational preference detecting unit operable to detect an operational preference of a user; and

 a selecting unit operable to selectively cause one of the following units to operate: said file characteristic detecting unit; said reproduction start point detecting unit; said reproduction mode detecting unit; and said operational preference detecting unit.

Claim 9 (Withdrawn) The reproducing apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising

 a reproducing unit operable to reproduce the moving image file,

 wherein said calculating unit is operable to calculate a reproduction start point of the moving image file based on the thinning-out ratio, and

said reproducing unit is operable to reproduce the moving image file from the reproduction start point.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended) A reproducing method for reproducing a moving image file recorded on a recording medium, said the reproducing method comprising:

a table size obtaining step of obtaining, from a recording medium, size information of a table which holds index information for the moving image file;

a memory size obtaining step of obtaining size information of a memory for storing index information that is for the reproduction of the moving image file;

a table size obtaining step of obtaining, from the recording medium, size information of a table that holds index information that is for the reproduction of the moving image file;

a calculating step of calculating a thinning-out ratio of the index information to be stored in the memory, the thinning-out ration being calculated based on the size information of the memory and the size information of the table so that the size of the table becomes equal to or smaller than the size of the memory; and

a thinning-out step of thinning out the index information based on the thinning-out ratio;
and

a writing step of thinning out the index information read from the recording medium, the index information being thinned out based on the thinning-out ratio calculated by the calculating step, and writing the thinned-out index information into the memory.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended) A computer-readable recording medium having a program recorded thereon, the program for reproducing a moving image file recorded on a recording medium, said and the program causing a computer to execute a method comprising:

a table size obtaining step of obtaining, from a recording medium, size information of a table which holds index information for the moving image file;

a memory size obtaining step of obtaining size information of a memory for storing index information that is for the reproduction of the moving image file;

a table size obtaining step of obtaining, from the recording medium, size information of a table that holds index information that is for the reproduction of the moving image file;

a calculating step of calculating a thinning-out ratio of the index information to be stored in the memory, the thinning-out ratio being calculated based on the size information of the memory and the size information of the table so that the size of the table becomes equal to or smaller than the size of the memory; and

a thinning-out step of thinning out the index information based on the thinning-out ratio;
and

a writing step of thinning out the index information read from the recording medium, the index information being thinned out based on the thinning-out ratio calculated by the calculating step, and writing the thinned-out index information into the memory.